

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A socket for electrically interconnecting an electrical device having conductive members arranged thereon, the socket comprising:

a dielectric housing defining a mounting surface toward the electrical device and a plurality of terminal-passageways extending inwardly from said mounting surface;

a plurality of terminals received in the terminal-passageways respectively, each of the terminals comprising a retention body secured in a corresponding terminal-passageway and a cantilever arm having a part thereof extending extended from the retention body beyond said mounting surface for mechanically and electrically engaging a corresponding conductive member of the electrical device, ~~said retention body having a part thereof extending toward the electrical device and in flush with said mounting surface;~~ and

a plurality of projections provided on said mounting surface and projecting toward the electrical device;

wherein when the electrical device engages with the socket, each conductive member of the electrical device compresses the arm of a corresponding terminal, thereby establishing mechanical and electrical engagement therebetween, said projections supporting the electrical device to prevent the conductive member from electrically touching the parts of the retention bodies of other terminals adjacent said terminal;

wherein the projections are interspersed on said mounting surface and one of the projections is disposed around a corresponding terminal-passageway.

Claim 2 (original): The socket as claimed in claim 1, wherein when the electrical device engages with the socket, said conductive member rests on a corresponding projection.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The socket as claimed in claim 1, wherein the projections integrally extend from said mounting surface, ~~the projections each said one of the projections~~ being situated around a corresponding terminal-passageway opposite to the retention portion of said corresponding projection.

Claim 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (original): The socket as claimed in claim 1, wherein the terminal-passageways each have a securing section and a receiving section vertical to and in communication with the securing section.

Claim 6 (original): The socket as claimed in claim 5, wherein the projections each are situated at one side of the receiving section of a corresponding terminal-passageway, opposing to the securing section of said terminal-passageway.

Claim 7 (original): The socket as claimed in claim 1, wherein the housing defines a mating surface opposite to the mounting surface, said retention body projects beyond the mating surface a vertical distance.

Claim 8 (original): The socket as claimed in claim 7, wherein the terminals each

further comprise a resilient arm extending beyond the mating surface, for engaging an exterior electrical device.

Claim 9 (original): The socket as claimed in claim 8, wherein the housing has a plurality of protrusions provided on the mating surface, the protrusions having a height relative to the mating surface longer than said vertical distance.

Claim 10 (original): The socket as claimed in claim 9, wherein the projections integrally extend from said mating surface, the projections each being situated around a corresponding terminal-passageway.

Claim 11 (original): The socket as claimed in claim 10, wherein the projection and the protrusions are symmetrically arranged on the mounting and mating surfaces relative to the housing.

Claim 12 (original): A socket for electrically interconnecting an electrical device having conductive members arranged thereon, the socket comprising:

a dielectric housing defining a mounting surface toward the electrical device and a plurality of terminal-passageways extending upwardly inwardly from said mounting surface, said terminal-passageways being arranged in rows;

a plurality of terminals received in the terminal-passageways respectively, each of the terminals comprising a retention body secured in a corresponding terminal-passageway and a cantilever arm extending from the retention body beyond said mounting surface for mechanically and electrically engaging a corresponding conductive member of the electrical device, ~~said retention body having a part thereof extending~~

~~toward the electrical device and beyond said mounting surface a distance in a thickness direction of the housing; and~~

a plurality of projections provided on said mounting surface and projecting toward the electrical device; said projections projecting beyond said mounting surface ~~a height;~~

wherein when the electrical device engages with the socket, each conductive member of the electrical device compresses the arm of a corresponding terminal, thereby achieving mechanical and electrical engagement therebetween, ~~said projections supporting the electrical device and the height of said projections is higher enough than said distance to prevent the conductive member from electrically engaging the parts of the retention bodies of other terminal adjacent said terminal~~
said projections supporting the electrical device to prevent the conductive member from electrically engaging the parts of the retention bodies of other terminals adjacent said terminal;

wherein said projections essentially stands on corresponding rows, respectively.

Claim 13 (original): The socket as claimed in claim 12, wherein when the electrical device engages with the socket, said conductive member rests on a corresponding projection.

Claim 14 (original): The socket as claimed in claim 12, wherein the projections integrally extend from said mounting surface, the projections each being situated around a corresponding terminal-passageway.

Claim 15 (original): The socket as claimed in claim 14, wherein the projections

each are configured with a rectangular section.

Claim 16 (original): The socket as claimed in claim 12, wherein the terminal-passageways each have a securing section and a receiving section vertical to and in communication with the securing section.

Claim 17 (original): The socket as claimed in claim 16, wherein the projections each are situated at one side of the receiving section of a corresponding terminal-passageway, opposing to the securing section of said terminal-passageway.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A socket assembly comprising:

a dielectric housing defining a plurality of vertical passageways arranged in rows and terminated on a top face thereof;

a plurality of conductive contacts disposed in the corresponding passageways, respectively, each of said contacts having a contact portion extending above the top face with a distance and along a direction defined by each of said rows;

a plurality of projections located on said top face beside the passageways with a height smaller than said distance; and

an electronic package located upon the projections and defining a bottom face with a plurality of conductive pads thereon; wherein

the bottom face is supportably seated upon the projections under a condition that the contact portion of each contacts is downwardly deflected by the corresponding conductive pad so that the distance is reduced to be essentially equal to said height;

wherein said projections are discrete and discontinued from one another

in said direction.

Claim 19 (new) The socket assembly as claimed in claim 18, wherein the projection is engaged with the corresponding conductive pad in a vertical direction perpendicular to said direction.

Claim 20 (new) The socket assembly as claimed in claim 18, wherein more than one projections closely surround each corresponding passageway.

Claim 21 (new) The socket assembly as claimed in claim 18, wherein the conductive pad is larger than the corresponding projection aside.